

# ONE: THE HOSTELRY OF MR. SMITH

## DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

### “DINDON FARCI À LA JOSH SMITH”: CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Josh Smith’s business practices draw attention to the idea of corporate social responsibility. A socially-responsible business “should strive to make a profit, obey the law, be ethical, and be a good corporate citizen”<sup>2</sup>. Consider all the ways that Smith operates his hotel. This could include his improvements to the hotel rooms, his donations to various community groups, his penchant for serving alcohol after hours, and his opening (and subsequent closing) of the Rat’s Cooler and the caff.

1. Is Smith running a socially-responsible business? Or is he merely manipulating people?
2. What do Smith’s actions tell us about the motivations that underlie corporate social responsibility?
3. How does Smith’s corporate social responsibility compare with corporations today?

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<sup>2</sup>

Carroll, Archie B. “The Pyramid of Corporate Social Responsibility: Toward the Moral Management of Organizational Stakeholders.” *Business Horizons*, vol. 34, no. 4, July-August 1991, p. 43.